

In the Claims:

Please add new claims 17 and 18, as follows:

1. (previously presented) A method of receiving a subscription to a mutual fund, the method comprising:

receiving a request for a home page, the request specifying a domain, but not explicitly specifying a file
5 within said domain;

responsive to the request, providing the home page comprising a notice of a subscription offering and a link to a web page;

receiving a request for the web page;
10 providing web page information allowing a user to subscribe to the mutual fund responsive to the receiving the request for the web page;

receiving an indication of an amount of money to be invested in the mutual fund;

15 identifying that a subscription period for the mutual fund has ended; and

providing to management of the mutual fund a number of subscribers to the mutual fund responsive to the subscription period for the mutual fund having ended.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the method additionally comprises communicating a total amount of money to be invested in the mutual fund responsive to the amount of money received.

3. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein all of the steps are performed via the Internet.

4. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the web page comprises the web page information.

5. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the web page comprises a link that may be followed to an additional web page comprising the web page information.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the steps of claim 1 are performed for each of a plurality of users and the method additionally comprises the steps of:

5 accumulating the amounts of money from each of the plurality of users; and

 providing to the mutual fund management the amounts of money accumulated.

7. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the notice comprises a banner.

8. (original) The method of claim 7 wherein the banner comprises one selected from a scrolling banner and an animated banner.

9. (previously presented) A computer program product comprising a computer useable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for receiving a subscription to a mutual fund, the computer program product
5 comprising computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer system to:

receive a request for a home page, the request specifying a domain, but not explicitly specifying a file within said domain;

10 responsive to the request, provide the home page comprising a notice of a subscription offering and a link to a web page;

receive a request for the web page;

provide web page information allowing a user to
15 subscribe to the mutual fund responsive to the receiving the request for the web page;

receive an indication of an amount of money to be invested in the mutual fund;

identify that a subscription period for the mutual
20 fund has ended; and

provide to management of the mutual fund a number of
subscribers to the mutual fund responsive to the
subscription period for the mutual fund having ended.

10. (previously presented) The computer program
product of claim 9, wherein the computer program product
additionally comprises computer readable program code
devices configured to cause the computer system to
5 communicate a total amount of money to be invested in the
mutual fund responsive to the amount of money received.

11. (previously presented) The computer program
product of claim 9 wherein at least some of the computer
readable program code devices use the Internet.

12. (original) The computer program product of claim 9
wherein the web page comprises the web page information.

13. (original) The computer program product of claim 9
wherein the web page comprises a link that may be followed
to an additional web page comprising the web page
information.

14. (previously presented) The computer program
product of claim 9, wherein the computer readable program
code devices of claim 9 are performed for each of a

plurality of users and the computer program product
5 additionally comprises computer readable program code
devices configured to cause the computer system to:

accumulate the amounts of money from each of the
plurality of users; and

provide to the mutual fund management the amounts of
10 money accumulated.

15. (original) The computer program product of claim
9, wherein the notice comprises a banner.

16. (original) The computer program product of claim
15 wherein the banner comprises one selected from a
scrolling banner and an animated banner.

17. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein:

the request is received by a broker;

the indication is received by the broker; and

the providing step is additionally responsive to
5 information collected by the broker before the mutual fund
was in operation.

18. (new) The computer program product of claim 9,
wherein:

the request is received by a broker;

the indication is received by the broker; and

- 5 the providing step is additionally responsive to information collected by the broker before the mutual fund was in operation.